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should be fulfilled. Such passages which are either contradictory to fact or contradictory to the doctrines of the very earliest church would never have been written if the story of Jesus had been pure imagination. The church may have obliterated many kindred passages which contain statements no longer in harmony with its doctrines. That these traces were left in the Gospels is an indication of the genuineness of the traditions of the New Testament, and there are additional reasons which make it very improbable that the whole Gospel story of Jesus should have been pure fiction. There is no doubt that the Gospels contain mythical elements, but they are super-added and we find no reason to doubt the historical foundation of the story of Jesus.

Though we do not agree with Professor Smith we can not help thinking that his theory should be fully investigated, and that it is the duty of modern theologians to face the criticism squarely and to dispose of it in one way or another.

We wish to say here that Professor Smith proposes to have his book on the pre-Christian Jesus followed up by a new work, in which he would contrast the idea of the historical and therefore human Jesus with his conception of the origin of Christianity, according to which the hero of the Gospel story would be a humanized god, and so he would entitle his new work, not as Pilate said, "*Ecce homo*" but "*Ecce deus*."

EDITOR.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM JAMES.

The unexpected death of Prof. William James has caused great grief in the wide circle of his friends, and we read the sad news with deep sorrow and sincere emotion. Professor James will be missed by friends and antagonists for with all his faults as a thinker he was a man of unusual genius, who by the very way in which he attacked the problems in which he was interested stirred the imagination and quickened the spirit of inquiry. Because of our personal acquaintance, I hesitated very long before I ventured to criticise him and I will say here that in spite of the attacks I made on his position we remained the best of friends and exchanged courteous letters. There is no need of repeating here the data of his life since they are too well known and have been sufficiently ventilated in the daily press.

EDITOR.